



## **CHRISTOPHER CONSTANTINO**

### **CLASS OF 1992**

Christopher Constantino has been a full time resident of Point Pleasant for 32 years and prior to that he enjoyed spending time at his family's 'shore house' that his grandfather built in 1956. Chris and his wife, Kim, currently call this same house "home". Chris is a 1992 graduate of Point Pleasant High School and was a member of the High School's freshman wrestling team. During his early youth, Chris enjoyed playing baseball in the Borough's Little League programs. However, his true passion was bodyboarding – both recreationally and competitively.

His love for the ocean and interest in the Earth Sciences led him to pursue a degree in Marine Sciences from Richard Stockton College, where he graduated in 1998. Chris has enjoyed a career trying to understand the ocean's physical interaction with land and working on projects to protect New Jersey's coastal resources, infrastructure and the recreational elements that have brought many of us to the shore in the first place. Chris has been an Environmental Specialist at the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection's Bureau of Coastal Engineering (BCE) for over 11 years where he interacts, on a daily basis, with groups from the federal level all the way down to the municipal level as well as with members of the public. Prior to working at the BCE, Chris was a research assistant at the Stockton College Coastal Research Center, where he assisted Federal, State and municipal

groups with coastal issues related to recurring storm damage and shoreline retreat.

His interests in the environment and trying to protect the Borough's natural resources drove him to become involved with the Environmental Commission and Climate Action Committee; he has been a member since 2005 and 2007, respectively, and is currently the chairman of the Environmental Commission. Being a part of these advisory groups as well as being a past member of the Borough's Open Space Committee, has allowed him to interact with the local officials, other advisory groups, educators and residents to share the missions of each of the advisory groups. Chris has worked with the Environmental Commission over the last 10 years to continue the Commission's biggest annual feature - the Borough's Earth Day Celebration. This event showcases vendors of 'green' products/ideas and environmental organizations, as well as local and small businesses, in an effort to instill environmentally responsible ideas and practices into all generations. This April event at Riverfront Park is known as one of the first events to get the community together outdoors after the cold winter months. In addition, Chris and the Commission have worked with the schools and local scouts by conducting environmental presentations, performing community clean-ups, and helping coordinate service projects, such as Eagle Scout projects.

Chris was the Ocean Star's Person of the Week in June 2009 and the recipient of the 2012 Point Pleasant Chamber of Commerce Service to the Community Award, and has received several proclamations for community and career service.

During his free time, Chris enjoys time with his wife, Kim, and their dog, Eddy; hanging out with family and friends; bodyboarding at his favorite local surf breaks; and trying to pair good food combinations and the right craft beer.